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SOURCE Polish and Czechoslovak newspapers as indicated. (Information requested.)

POLISH EXPORTS, IMPORTS LISTED

PORT OF SZCZECIN INCREASES VOLUME OF LOADINGS -- Rzeczpospolita, No 43,
13 Feb 49

In the first months of 1948 when the plan estimated the Szczecin port loadings for the year to be 2.5 million tons of goods, few people believed it possible. It developed, however, that loadings greatly exceeded the plan. Although in the first part of 1948 the average monthly loadings were approximately 100,000 tons, in the last quarter of 1948 the average monthly figure increased to 330,000 tons.

In 1946 the turnover at the Port of Szczecin consisted entirely of exports and amounted to 44,000 tons; in 1947 total turnover was 706,685 tons, of which 112,093 were exports, 577,139 exports, and 17,453 transit; in 1948 total turnover increased to 3,111,414 tons, of which 332,533 were imports, 2,531,410 exports, and 247,471 transit.

These figures show an uninterrupted increase in goods turnover resulting from greater efficiency in handling brought about by the installation of new equipment.

Suezcan is becoming important in ocean traffic. In 1948, trade contacts embraced 18 countries, in 1947, only eight. About 30 important commodity groups were represented. Among the exports were wood, grain, salt, and chicory. Herring, Thomas-process iron, pyrites, cotton, and hemp were included in the imports.

The more important export items clearing through Szczecin in 1948 were (in tons): coal, 2,307,526; bunker coal, 125,985; coke, 22,570; grain, 27,068; iron products, 16,020; glass and porcelain, 6,500; sugar, 6,478; chicory, 5,375; and salt, 4,010.

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Imports show a steady increase. The most important item is ore imported for the Polish and Czechoslovak metallurgical industry. Czechoslovakia used 200,000 tons.

The more important import items are (in tons): iron ore, 236,182; Thomas process iron, 27,965; pyrites, 9,383; herring, 14,070; cellulose, 15,249; cotton, 6,602; and waste paper, 3,885.

Goods in transit also showed an unusual increase:

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>
Incoming	4,809 tons	231,996 tons
Outgoing	<u>12,644</u> 17,453 tons	<u>15,476</u> 247,472 tons

The above consists of commodities traded between the Scandinavian countries and Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Bulgaria.

JANUARY SHIPPING NEWS -- Rzeczpospolita, No 38, 8 Feb 49

According to preliminary statistics of the Gdansk Maritime Office, the January freight loadings in the Gdansk-Gdynia Group totaled 1,098,707 tons, including 98,584 tons of exports and 109,123 tons of imports. The biggest export item was 870,940 tons of coal. Freight cleared through Gdynia amounted to 459,610 tons; 529,974 tons were cleared through Gdansk. Imports through Gdynia amounted to 66,411 tons; through Gdansk, 42,712 tons.

Shipping in Szczecin showed 370 arrivals and 366 departures. Total freight handled was 300,000 tons, three times the turnover in January 1948. Coal, ore, aptite, lumber, and scrap iron are some of the important items which cleared through Szczecin.

IMPORTS FOR THE BUILDING INDUSTRY -- Rzeczpospolita, No 20, 21 Jan 49

Fifteen million dollars of machinery and equipment for the building industry have been ordered from the Soviet Union. Deliveries are to be made between 1949 and 1952. This order includes heavy machinery such as excavators, building cranes, belt conveyors, automatic dump trucks, heaters, air-compressing pumps, drilling machines, and pumps.

The order to France, amounting to 456 million francs, consisted chiefly of cranes, excavators, central heating equipment, grates, etc.

Orders have also been sent to England, Czechoslovakia, and Sweden.

FIRE EQUIPMENT FROM SWEDEN -- Rzeczpospolita, No 32, 2 Feb 49

In the last few days Szczecin received two pieces of motorized fire-fighting equipment to be used by the port's fire department. This is the first shipment on an order for fire-fighting equipment placed with Sweden by the Ministry of Navigation.

POLISH SALT FOR EXPORT -- Svobodne Slovo [Czech] No 26, 1 Feb 49

Czechoslovakia, Sweden, Finland, and Denmark are the chief consumers of Polish salt exports. The most modern rock salt mine in Poland,

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the Wapno mine, produces 180,000 tons of white, granular salt per year, most of which is used as table salt. The Inowroclaw salt works, which evaporates 40,000 tons of salt annually from saline mineral water, ships salt mainly to Scandinavia for use in salting fish and for making salt butter. The Wieliczka mine produces 180,000 tons of gray rock salt per year, some of which is used for food, but most of it is used in industry and agriculture. Evaporated table salt of the finest quality also is produced there. The salt mine at Bochnia now produces only gray salt for use in agriculture and the chemical industry.

The production and sale of salt in Poland are in the hands of the Polish Salt Monopoly state enterprise.

Total salt production in Poland is over 400 tons per year. In 1947, 33,000 tons were exported, of which more than half went to Czechoslovakia, while 29,000 tons of the still larger amount exported in 1948 went to Czechoslovakia. Prewar export was only 15,000 tons per year.

POULTRY EXPORTS -- Rzeczpospolita, No 44, 14 Feb 49

In 1948, Poland exported 5,200 tons of frozen poultry worth 7 million dollars, an increase over 1947, when exports amounted to 831,081 kilograms worth 1,055,370 dollars.

According to the 1949 plan, exports should reach 10,000 tons, or twice as much as in 1948.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH ALBANIA -- Rzeczpospolita, No 72, 23 Jan 49

A Polish-Albanian trade agreement was signed on 22 January 1949. Poland will export railroad rolling stock, vessels for coastal navigation, textiles, metal products, and electrotechnical machines and equipment. In exchange, Albania will send Poland copper, pyrites, cotton, petroleum, tobacco, and other articles. Value of total goods to be exchanged is 4 million dollars.

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